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LB 622

in LB 622, those city governments, if you will, are jeopardized to some extent.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Senator Raikes. And I guess I didn't...I supported your original amendment, and I did so because I thought it was equitably unfair. By that I mean everybody was hurt. And now, I guess what I'm wondering is, why are we separating out...I mean, why didn't we introduce the amendment this way in the beginning? If it was such a good idea now, why didn't we introduce that when it first...the other day, when it was on Select File?

SENATOR RAIKES: Well, it's a fair question, Senator Bourne. I think to some extent the conversation that...discussion we had on the floor is responsible for coming to this as a potential solution to the problem. In terms of sharing the pain everywhere, I think actually the interest of equity serves moving toward this amendment to the bill. Because with the expansion of the sales tax base, cities that have a sales tax base...or sales tax in place stand to benefit. Now, whether they'll all benefit equally I wouldn't argue, but at least there is some potential. If a city does not have a sales tax, there's obviously very little opportunity for them to expand from...or to benefit.

SENATOR BOURNE: I see. And so what you're trying to do is offset...you're saying that some communities received a benefit because of the expanded tax base, sales tax base, and you're trying to offset that to the smaller communities with this amendment?

SENATOR RAIKES: If I understand you correctly, yes.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay. Thank you, Senator Raikes. I guess I just want to kind of remind people of the MIRF fund that we eliminated earlier this year. And I...and that went through. There was two people that voted against that. And you want to talk about help for small communities? Anyone that wants the list of what MIRF money went to, I can give that to you. And it's not huge, but I think it's comparable to what we're doing now. And I guess I just find it interesting that, you know, we